March, 2014

Volume 12, Issue 3

Fire Report



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February 2013

EMS = 73

Fire = 6

February 2014

EMS = 52

Fire = 7

Hydrant Testing

Hydrant testing has been completed for this year. There are now 97 hydrants within city limits, and only one was found to be broken. This is the least number found since the testing was begun in 2009, and the system has been steadily improving in that time. A half of a dozen older and non-standard hydrants have been replaced, the large diameter outlets have been changed out on many hydrants to make them all the same size. Behind the scenes, the water company has also been making changes that have improved system volume. All of these changes have improved the reliability, usability, and flows of the hydrant system.

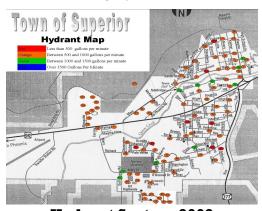
Overall flows have improved 31% with the average hydrant

increasing from 1199 gpm to 1737 gpm. There are no longer any red hydrants (less than 500gpm) and the average hydrant is over 1000 gpm. The total report is attached.

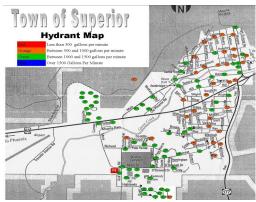
The flow data is used to generate flow charts, which calculate the amount of water that could expected if a fire engine was attached and drawing it down to 20 psi. This number is used for the "fire flow" numbers required in IFC 2006. New construction projects must have there fire flows signed of by the fire marshal. The Magma Hotel, for instance, requires 2500gpm for 2 hours with a minimum of 2 hydrants. A review of the fire flow charts for the two closest hydrants reveals a combined flow of a

about 3900 gpm. This means that no new hydrants are needed for this project. The new clinic and the Family Dollar both required new hydrants, as they did not have sufficient flows in the area. Allowing building to be put in without sufficient flows can effect the towns ISO rating, which helps to set insurance rates for the town. I have attached a sample flow chart for the newest hydrant at the clinic.

All of the hydrants should be re-painted over the next month to reflect the current, higher, flow rates by the water company.



Hydrant System 2009



Hydrant System 2014

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Equipment Service

Many fire tools are required to be inspected on a yearly basis. These yearly checks have not been completed since 2011 in most cases. The items in this category are: extrication equipment, SCBA tanks and packs, ladders, SCBA fill station, engine pumps, and fire extinguishers. Hose should also be tested once a year,

which we do in house. We also have equipment that needs to be aged out and replaced.

Most of these items have been budgeted each year, but never funded, creating significant liability.



Vehicle Update

Engine 632 is still out of service. An estimate was obtained for repairs, but the variables are significant, and the estimate was a range of \$700 to \$6000. No action will be taken on this vehicle until the IGA with Mesa is considered.

Command 631 has been returned to service after some

minor repairs.

All other vehicles are up and running, but remain in need of service.

I have attached the maintenance plan approved in 2012 to give an idea of the cost of a routine maintenance program. "Engine 632 is still broken down..."



Code Enforcement Update

Code enforcement continues, with 12 tickets written last month and 25 notices active.

The list of problem properties increases steadily, with many falling into the category of

abandoned. Further steps, most likely requiring expendatures by the town, will be required to make any progress on these properties. Direction from the council will be needed in order to move for-

ward towards a solution.